

REMARKS

In the subject Office Action, claims 1, 3, 8, 11, 13-15, 20-23, 25, 26, 27 and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,534,533 to Lutman. In addition, claims 6, 7, 17 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lutman in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,507,516 to Reast.

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 16, 18, 19 and 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

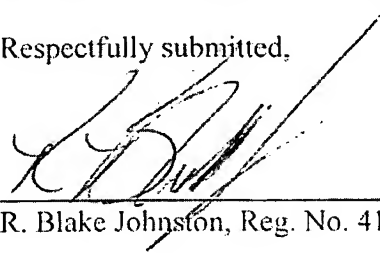
In response, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 4, and claims 4-7 have been cancelled. Claim 8 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 9, and claim 9 has been cancelled. Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form so that it now incorporates the subject matter of claim 1. Independent claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 16. Dependent claim 16 has been cancelled. Dependent claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form so that it now includes the subject matter of claim 13.

Method claims 23-31 have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of the case, it is requested that the undersigned attorney be telephoned for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Blake Johnston', is written over a horizontal line.

R. Blake Johnston, Reg. No. 41,097

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